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Fourth meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 (IP4)

Bucharest, Romania, 29 August – 2 September 2022

Nairobi, Kenya, 27 February – 3 March 2023*

IP4 Discussion Document on the Way Forward for Existing EPIs and Other Issues of Concern

Submission by IOMC

Note by the secretariat

The annex to the present note contains a submission by IOMC, revised in preparation for the resumed IP4. It is reproduced as received by the secretariat, without formal editing.

* The fourth meeting of the intersessional process considering the Strategic Approach and sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020 (IP4) was held from 29 August to 2 September 2022 in Bucharest, Romania. The meeting was adjourned on 2 September 2022 and will be resumed from 27 February to 3 March 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya.

Annex*: IP4 Discussion Document on the Way Forward for Existing EPIs and Other Issues of Concern

As indicated in the *Global Chemicals Outlook II* published in 2019 and the *SAICM Assessment Report on Issues of Concern: Chemicals and Waste Issues Posing Risks to Human Health and the Environment* (2020), the emerging policy issues undertaken from 2009 have had an uneven implementation in regions.

Noting that resolution ICCM/IV/2 requests the lead agencies of the Inter-Organization Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals, Governments and other relevant stakeholders to report through the secretariat on progress in the implementation of Conference resolutions on emerging policy issues and other issues of concern to the Open-ended Working Group and the International Conference on Chemicals Management at its fifth session;

Actions to address EPIs and other issues of concern are still under implementation and IOMC would like to request that in order to not disrupt further progress in implementation this continues in the current manner until ICCM6. Therefore, the IOMC proposes the following approach, as submitted at the VWG on 22 January 2021.

At ICCM5:

Agree to an omnibus resolution on the existing SAICM EPIs & other issues of concern that:

- i. Recognizes the efforts and progress achieved to date;
- ii. Welcomes the Assessment Report on Issues of Concern made by UNEP following resolution UNEA 4/8;
- iii. States the intention to:
 - a) consider all EPIs and other issues of concern from before ICCM5 as being transitioned into any new arrangements for “issues of [international] concern” adopted as part of the new Beyond 2020 SAICM instrument
 - b) determine and set the path forward on these existing SAICM EPIs and other issues of concern at its sixth session [ICCM6];
- iv. Calls for continued work on EPIs adopted before 2020 to continue until ICCM6 and for a report on progress at ICCM6;
- v. Invites the responsible IOMC organizations, in consultation with stakeholders, to submit a proposal to ICCM6 including: (a) an assessment on how these EPIs and other issues of concern contribute to achieving the Strategic Objective(s) and Targets of the new instrument; (b) proposing additional indicators as needed for relevant targets for these EPIs; (c) the need to continue addressing them as “issues of [international] concern” in the new instrument and (d) opportunities to improve implementation in regions.

* The annex has not been formally edited.